

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of October 15 - October 19, 2007**

- 1. Important Update on Takoma Metro:** The City of Takoma Park is sharing an alternative transit plan for the Takoma Metro property with WMATA and officials of the District of Columbia, Montgomery County and the State of Maryland. The plan was prepared by Nelson\Nygaard Consulting of New York City, transportation consultants retained by the City of Takoma Park. The plan allows for safe access to the transit station by patrons and provides room to accommodate expansion of transit facilities in the future. The plan also accommodates the provisions of the Takoma Central District Plan. The WMATA Board is scheduled to vote to approve the EYA development plan on Thursday, October 25. That plan constrains the transit facilities to such an extent as to be unsafe, confusing, and unable to accommodate future need for transit. The City had the alternative plan prepared to show that a good transit plan is possible and that the EYA plan should not be adopted. For more information, go to the City's web page, [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov) and click on the link to the Takoma Metro Development page. *(Community & Government Liaison)*
- 2. Maple Avenue Bridge (Ward 5):** Work is continuing on the restoration of the pedestrian walkway attached to the Maple Avenue bridge. The bridge is expected to be reopened within two weeks. *(Public Works)*
- 3. Mississippi Avenue/Comstock Branch Streambank Restoration:** Work is continuing on the streambank restoration and is anticipated to be completed within 1 to 2 weeks. *(Public Works)*
- 4. Leaf Collection:** Notices have been mailed out to all Takoma Park properties regarding this season's leaf collection program. The seven week program will begin November 5 and run through December 21. *(Public Works)*
- 5. TOMORROW - Arts and Humanities Day Celebration - Saturday, Oct 20:** Join us tomorrow - Saturday, October 20 - as we celebrate Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Day. Festivities include workshops on Buddhism, melodrama, publishing, dance and creative thinking; discussions on the local music scene, pop culture, Virginia Woolf and outsider art; a virtual tour of the history of Takoma Park; various art activities; poetry readings; storytelling; music; dance; films appropriate for children; and much, much more. The Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Washington National Opera, Maru Montero Dance Company, Takoma Academy, and Tacky Bones will be performing. There will be food and door prizes for participants throughout the day. The event is free and will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission and the Takoma Park Recreation Department. For more information, please check the city's website at [www.takomaparkmd.gov](http://www.takomaparkmd.gov) or call 301-891-7100. *(Housing and Community Development)*
- 6. First Time Home Buyer's Class:** Twenty two prospective home buyers attended the First Time Home Buyer's class sponsored by the City of Takoma Park and LEDC (Latino Economic Development Corporation) on Saturday October 13 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center. Presenters included representatives from Bank of America, a real estate agency and a home inspection company. All attendees received a certificate which can be used to access low interest loans offered by the county and state. The next class, which will be conducted in Spanish will be held on Saturday, October 27. To register, call 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**7. Upcoming Classes Offered by the Housing Department:** Mark your calendars and call 301-891-7222 if you would like to attend any of the following classes, being offered free of charge by the City. "Your Rights as a Tenant", Wednesday October 24, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. "Post Purchase Home Ownership", Wednesday, November 7, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**8. TOMORROW! Main Street Takoma Fall Clean-Up Day October 20 (Citywide):** Volunteers needed! Earn Community Service Hours! Saturday, October 20, from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon. Meet at Laurel Avenue, Takoma Junction, and the Triangle Park at 4th Street, NW. For more information, please visit [www.mainstreettakoma.org](http://www.mainstreettakoma.org) or e-mail [designcommittee@mainstreettakoma.org](mailto:designcommittee@mainstreettakoma.org) *(Housing and Community Development)*.

**9. Maryland Downtown Development Association (City-Wide):** HCD's Planning staff attended a Maryland Downtown Development Association meeting this week. The meeting featured a detailed presentation and discussion on Business Improvement Districts and business recruitment. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**10. Snapshots:** City TV staff will be covering Arts and Humanities Day this Saturday, October 20, for a future Snapshots feature. *(City TV)*

**11. What's on the Web?:** Newly available for viewing on the website is the Takoma Voice Candidates Forum held last Sunday, Oct. 14th in the Council Chambers. The direct link is: [http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish\\_id=56](http://takomapark.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=56) *(City TV)*

**12. Testing the RSS:** Web staff are testing a new RSS feature for the City website; any volunteer testers may send an email to [webmaster@takomaparkmd.gov](mailto:webmaster@takomaparkmd.gov) with RSS Test as the subject line for more information about helping us refine this service. *(City TV)*

**13. The Chief, the Sanctuary Law, and a New Recruit:**

- On October 15, Chief Ricucci spoke before the City Council regarding a proposed narrow change to the Sanctuary Law. The City Council declined to make any changes to the Sanctuary Law.
- Chief Ricucci completed the interviews for Crime Analyst and has extended an offer, which has been accepted. *(Police)*

**14. Citizen's Patrol:** On October 17, Chief Ricucci met with Wolfgang Mergner to discuss Mergner's role with the Montgomery County Mediation and Conflict Service, and to discuss citizens neighborhood patrols for mediation and conflict. As a result, roll call training has been set up. The Chief is following up on citizen's patrol. *(Police)*

**15. Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 88 traffic stops this week, some of which resulted in citations, and two vehicle impounds. *(Police)*